



RECEIVED

DEC 30 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Galdes, et al.

Serial No: 09/325,602

Filed: June 3, 1999

For: Methods and Compositions for  
Treating Disorders Involving  
Excitotoxicity

Attorney Docket No. CIBT-P02-069

Art Unit: 1646

Examiner: M. Brannock

27/3  
3.9.3  
1/27/03

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date indicated below:

December 20, 2002

Date of Signature  
and of Mail Deposit

Ginny Blundell

Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

Sir:

This amendment is being filed in reply to the outstanding Office Action, mailed October 2, 2002, in connection with the above application.

For the convenience of the Examiner, all claims being examined are presented below.

3! 1. (Amended) A method for promoting survival and/or functional performance of neuronal cells susceptible to excitotoxicity comprising contacting the cells with an amount of a lipophilic modified *hedgehog* polypeptide effective to reduce excitotoxin-mediated degradation of the cells, wherein said *hedgehog* polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence at least 80% identical to an amino acid sequence designated in SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 15, or an N-terminal fragment thereof of at least 50 contiguous amino acids

01/27/2003 GTRAHMEL 00000001 181945 09325602

01 FC:1201

504.00 CH

- 1 -

01/28/2003 GTRAHMEL 00000001 181945 09325602

01 FC:1202 108.00 CH